WAID • AUGUSTYN • KITSON • BAIR

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FIRST, THEY TOOK SUPERMAN.

THEN THEY SET THEIR SIGHTS A LITTLE SMALLER.

IVY UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

--YES, PROF. PALMER, YOUR FIANCÉE JEAN CALLED LOOKING FOR YOU. SHE GKK-KK-K--

AY PALMER

ENRICHETTA? ARE YOU THERE?

ENRICHETTA!

SOUNDED LIKE SHE PASSED OUT! IS SHE OKAY?

AS RAY PALMER, I'D HAVE TO DRIVE TO THE CAMPUS TO FIND OUT--BUT AS THE ATOM, I CAN RIDE ELECTRONS THROUGH THE PHONE LINES AND--

--AAAAGH!

KZZKKT!

THEY COURTED THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE.

...LUCKY I'M NOT COLLECTING PERMANENT DISABILITY. AS THE BLUE BEETLE, I OWE THE GOVERNMENT BIG.

ONCE THE BROTHERHOOD TOOK ME APART, THE NATIONAL GUARD USED THE GENEGRAFT RAY TO PUT ME BACK TOGETHER AGAIN.

NOW I'M AS GOOD AS NYAAARGH--

CHOOM!

THEY STRUCK WITHOUT WARNING.

METAL MEN-- ATTACK!

WRECK THE DOC'S LAB, WILL YOU?

D-D-DON'T W-WORRY, DOC! WE'LL SH-SHOW THEM WHO'S--

--SQUEEEEZKKKT

WITHOUT REMORSE.

THUNK!

DOC? DARLING? WHAT--WHAT HAPPENED? MY LIMBS-- THEY'RE NOT RESPONDING--!

WITHOUT MERCY.

WHAK KROK CHOK THOK THUD

ACROSS THE LAND, CRIMEFIGHTERS FAR AND WIDE WERE PLUCKED OUT OF THE NIGHT...

3...3X2(9YAAIIEEE!

...GATHERED WITH EXTREME FORCE...

MY LENSES...

...I CAN'T SEE WITHOUT MY LENSES...!

...AND BROUGHT TO A REMOTE ATLANTIC ISLAND...

...HOME TO A FLYING SQUADRON NOW GROUNDED...

...BY INVADERS FROM BEYOND THE STARS!

# STALAG EARTH

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METROPOLIS.

DAILY PLANET

LANTERN!

J'ONN--CATCH HIM!

CANARY, FLASH--THEY'RE COMING UP FROM BEHIND! LOOK OUT!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. IF THIS IS METROPOLIS, WHERE THE HELL IS SUPERMAN...?

FROM THE TOP, SNAPPER. TELL ME--

CANARY, LOUDER! HE'S BUCKLING!

--TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW. HOW COULD YOUR UNCLE SIMON HAVE ORCHESTRATED SUCH A--

THAT'S JUST IT, AQUAMAN! UNCLE SIMON DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THIS--NOT WILLINGLY!

"A FEW MONTHS AGO, SEVEN **ALIENS** SHOWED UP, RIGHT? THAT'S WHAT BROUGHT THE JUSTICE LEAGUE TOGETHER IN THE **FIRST** PLACE!

"THEY CAME HERE IN A BUNCH OF DIFFERENT **HOST BODIES** TO FIGHT A **DUEL**-- FIGURING THE **WINNER** WOULD BECOME KING OF THEIR PLANET, **APPELLAX**! INSTEAD, YOU GUYS SHUT THE SEVEN **DOWN**--

"--BUT YOU **MISSED** AN **EIGHTH**, 'CAUSE HIS HOST BODY **MAL-FUNCTIONED**--AND THAT'S WHAT **SAVED** HIM! HE WAS RESCUED BY **LOCUS**--

"--AND AFTER HE SAW HOW EASILY **YOU** FIVE **TRASHED** THE OTHER APPELLAX-IANS, HE GRABBED A **NEW** HOST BODY. HE LEARNED HOW UNCLE SIMON WAS **CONNECTED** WITH THE LEAGUE--THAT SIMON WAS WORKING FOR YOUR **FINANCIAL BACKER**--

"--SO HE--HE **TOOK** SIMON. USED HIM AS A **SPY-EYE**. SIMON DIDN'T **KNOW** HE WAS SHARING HIS BODY WITH AN **ALIEN MIND**. HE THOUGHT HE WAS HAVING **BLACKOUTS**.

"THE ALIEN **LAY LOW** EVERY TIME J'ONN WAS NEARBY, 'CAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO GET RATTED OUT BY J'ONN'S **TELEP-ATHY**--BUT THE **REST** OF THE TIME, HE WAS SENDING WORD **HOME**!

"GUESS HE GOT AFRAID I'D CAUGHT **ON**, SO HE BASHED ME UP PRETTY GOOD--BUT I GOT **AWAY** AFTER HE **BRAGGED** ABOUT WHAT HE'D BEEN **UP** TO!

"HE'D TOLD THE **APPELLAXIANS** HOW **POWERFUL** EARTH'S **HEROES** WERE, THAT THEY MIGHT SOMEDAY BE A **THREAT** TO APPELLAX--

"--SO THEY SENT AN ENTIRE **INVASION FORCE** TO WIPE OUR PLANET **OUT**!"

HOW **MANY**? ORIGINALLY WE FOUGHT JUST **SEVEN**...

TRY **SEVEN**... **THOUSAND**.

WATCH OUT!

SORRY. I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE IT WHEN I SWOOP IN TO SAVE YOU.

THAT'S...THAT'S OKAY. I'M SHOT. GOD, HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN FIGHTING THESE THINGS?

NON-STOP? ALMOST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS...

...UH-OH.

"GREEN LANTERN'S--"

--LOST TRACK OF TIME! FORGOT TO RECHARGE THE RING!

J'ONN, I'M FALLING! A LITTLE HELP--?

FLASH! I CANNOT PULL AWAY IN TIME TO CATCH LANTERN!

I PULLED AN IMAGE FROM HIS MIND--SOMETHING INVISIBLE IN A LOCKER IN CALIFORNIA--THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE HIM! RETRIEVE IT!

INVISIBLE? HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR?

I WILL GUIDE YOU TELEPATHICALLY! GO!

GL! OH, MY GOD! OH, MY GOD!

STAY RELAXED.

HE IS.

NEED THIS?

TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.

I HAD TO GO BY TOUCH! WHAT DO YOU WANT? SEE YA!

IN BRIGHTEST DAY, IN BLACKEST NIGHT, NO EVIL SHALL ESCAPE MY SIGHT!

LET THOSE WHO WORSHIP EVIL'S MIGHT--

--BEWARE MY POWER--

--GREEN LANTERN'S LIGHT!

NICE TEAMWORK-- BUT TOO LITTLE, TOO LAAAAATE--!

SHKROOM

GOT YOU! THAT WAS CLOSE!

.THERE IS NO MORE "CLOSE"--NOT IN THIS CITY! WE HAVE TO FACE THE TRUTH--

--WE'VE LOST METROPOLIS.

NO! THE PEOPLE--WE HAVE TO STAY AND HELP THE--

CANARY, HE'S RIGHT. THE ALIENS ARE MOVING WESTWARD, AND FAST. LIKE IT OR NOT--

--MAYBE WE CAN HELP THE NEXT CITY MORE THAN WE DID THIS ONE!

GOTHAM

I SAID--

--WHERE IS THE JUSTICE LEAGUE?

WE HAVE NOT YET CLAIMED THEM AS WE HAVE THE OTHERS, KALAR! THEY ALONE KNEW WE WERE COMING, MEANING WE COULD NOT LAY THEM ANY TRAPS.

THUS FAR, THEIR TEAMWORK HAS PROTECTED THEM FROM CAPTURE-- BUT I SHALL RETURN TO BATTLE AND PERSONALLY--

NO NEED. THAT ISN'T WHY I ASKED YOU HERE.

LOCUS NEGLECTED TO PROVIDE ME A SUITABLE HOST FORM BEFORE THEY WERE DEFEATED. DO YOU KNOW HOW FRAIL AND LIMITED THESE EARTHLING BODIES ARE?

I CAN IMAGINE--

--I BUILT A DEVICE THAT WILL DESTROY YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS-- SHATTER IT INTO ETHEREAL FRAGMENTS--

--SO THAT I MIGHT LAY CLAIM TO YOUR BODY!

AIEEEEEE--!

I DON'T THINK YOU CAN. IF YOU COULD, YOU'D ACTUALLY UNDERSTAND WHY--

KALAR, NOOO! PLEEEASE! I WOULD GLAAADLY-- SUUURRENDER THIIIS--FORRRM TOOO YOOOuuu--!

SO YOU SAY. ALAS, WHERE WOULD WE HAVE PUT YOUR MIND, THEN?

FAREWELL, SOLDIER. GIVE MY REGARDS TO THE PLASMGODS ABOVE.

AND AS FOR YOU, CARR--YOU KNOW FAR TOO MUCH TO CONTINUE LIVING--

?

WHERE--?

CARR!

CAAAAR!

WHERE... WHERE AM I...?

IN A POSITION MOST ADVANTAGEOUS.

AAH!

WHO--?

MY NAME IS VANDAL SAVAGE... FORMER ALLY OF THE APPELLAXIANS, NOW THEIR TARGET.

BUT I HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOUR KALAR CLOSELY, SIMON CARR, AND IF MY SUSPICIONS ARE CORRECT...

...YOU WILL GIVE ME THE MEANS TO FINALLY ELIMINATE MY ENEMIES.

...ALL OF THEM...

MIDWAY CITY

BARRY!

I'M... ALL RIGHT. JUST... WINDED. WHAT... WOULD THE JSA HAVE DONE...?

AGAINST THIS? I HAVE NO IDEA. I...

...I'M LOST...

WE--WE HAVE TO HOLD OUR GROUND!

WE CAN'T STOP THE ALIENS ON OUR OWN! WE'VE GOT TO TRACK DOWN HELP AND...

...

...AND I KNOW HOW!

EVERYONE-- FOLLOW ME!

WE NEED J'ONN'S *FILES!* WE WERE *FURIOUS* AT HIM FOR *CREATING* THEM--BUT THEY'RE GOING TO BE OUR *SALVATION!*

WAIT! WE SAID WE WOULDN'T--

"I KNOW--BUT WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE NOW?"

*DAYS AGO...*

--CAN'T *BELIEVE* J'ONN WOULD *SPY* ON US!

NOT JUST *US.* THERE ARE FILES HERE ON *DOZENS* OF CRIME-FIGHTERS, ACTIVE *AND* RETIRED.

HOME *BASES...* SECRET *IDENTITIES...*

*HEY!* AS TEMPTING AS THEY MAY *BE*-- WE CAN'T GO POKING *THROUGH* THESE!

THEY *SHOULD* GO BACK TO THE PEOPLE THEY *PERTAIN* TO...BUT THE ONLY WAY TO *FIND* THEM ALL...

WING

METAL MEN

SEA DEVILS

...IS TO DIG *THROUGH* THE FILES... AND WE *WON'T,* AGREED?

AGREED. WE'LL TAKE *OURS*--BUT UNTIL WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT TO *DO* WITH THE *REST,* THEY'RE *HANDS OFF.* THEY'LL BE SAFE *HERE.*

*THE PRESENT.*

THEY'RE GONE--THEY'RE ALL GONE...!

THAT EXPLAINS WHY WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING THIS FIGHT *ALONE*. CARR RAIDED THE *FILES*.

EXCEPTING *US*, HE NOW HAS A *FULL DOSSIER* ON *EVERY HERO* IN THE *LAND*-- AND HE'S *USED* IT TO *AMBUSH* THEM *ALL*.

BATMAN? *SUPERMAN*? THEY'VE BEEN *CAPTURED*--?

...

OR *WORSE*.

AFTER ALL, WHY WOULDN'T THE APPELLAXIANS SIMPLY *EXTERMINATE* THEM...

...J'ONN?

THEY'RE *ALIVE*.

WHAT?

I GOT A *MESSAGE* FROM THE *FISH*. THE ALIENS HAVE SET UP A *HOLDING PEN* ON AN *ATLANTIC ISLAND*... MOST LIKELY FOR THE *OTHERS*. I CAN *GET* US THERE.

NOT SO *FAST*. THEY MAY BE *EXPECTING* US.

THE ALIENS GOT THE *DROP* ON EVERYONE NOT ONLY BECAUSE THEY KNEW THEIR *STRENGTHS* AND *WEAKNESSES*--

--BUT BECAUSE THEY HAD THE ELEMENT OF *SURPRISE*. THAT'S WHAT *WE* NEED... AND HERE'S HOW WE *GET* IT...

BONDS *READY*.

SHACKLES *PREPARED*.

ATTACK.

--AND THEN WE CAN--

THOOM!

STOW IT! COMPANY'S HERE!

THIS FIGHT IS OVER BEFORE IT BEGINS, RINGED ONE! YOU ARE POWERLESS AGAINST THESE YELLOW CONSTRICTIONS...

:GGGHHH!:

...WHILE FLAME QUELLS YOUR STRENGTH, MARTIAN!

QUICKLY-- BIND THE OTHERS!

WE WILL NOT KILL YOU.

WE WISH FIRST TO KNOW HOW YOUR POWERS AND SPIRIT FUNCTION. THAT WE WILL DISCOVER ONLY BY EXAMINING YOU ALIVE...

...UNDER THE SCALPEL.

BLACKHAWK ISLAND

...GETTIN' KINDA SCARED, OLLIE.

THAT'S JUST WHAT THEY WANT, KID.

DON'T GIVE 'EM THE SATISFACTION.

BE BRAVE. WE'RE THE GREAT GREEN ARROW AND SPEEDY, RIGHT? DOWN-- BUT NEVER OUT!

WE FIGHT UNTIL THE *LAST HOPE* IS...

...GONE...

ACCEPT YOUR *FATE*, "JUSTICE LEAGUERS." THERE WILL *BE* NO *ESCAPE*. AGAIN...WE *KNOW* YOUR *WEAKNESSES*.

IF YOU DARE DELUDE YOURSELF INTO THINKING YOU HAVE ANY *CHANCE* OF DELIVERANCE...

...WE WILL *SQUEEZE* IT OUT OF YOU.

AAAAHH!

AAAEEEEEE

APPELLAX-IANS THINK THEY'RE SO *SMART.* BOTHERED BY THE *FIRE,* "J'ONN"?

NOT REALLY, NO.

YOU THOUGHT YOU *KNEW* US, EH?

*FZZAK!*

THINK *AGAIN!*

WELL, I'LL BE A...

THEY *FOOLED* 'EM! THEY TRICKED THE *ALIENS--*

"--BY SWITCHING PLACES!"

NICE DISGUISE WORK. I HAVE GOT TO GET ME A RING LIKE THAT.

ONE OF A KIND, FRIEND...

...ONE OF A KIND!

SHRRAAK!

WEAPONS! WHERE ARE YOUR WEAPONS?

IN THE NORTH BUILDING! THEY SAID THEY TOOK 'EM TO--

--STUDY 'EM!

J'ONN! CANARY! AQUAMAN! HOLD THE LINE!

STARMAN! SUPERMAN! DR. FATE! AIM YOUR POWERS AT THE STALAG WALL--

--AND LET FLY!

THE ALIENS MAY HAVE TAKEN THE WORLD--

FRA KOOOM!

...BUT WE'RE TAKING IT BACK.

TO BE CONCLUDED!